

Message Text

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SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS

1. ATMOSPHERICS:

-- ANNOUNCEMENT NEW CABINET RECEIVED MAJOR PRESS
ATTENTION. NO BIG SURPRISES WITH HALF OFFICIALS
RETAINING THEIR OLD POSITIONS (INCLUDING MINISTERS OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENSE AND COMMUNICATIONS) AND ABOUT
SAME MAINLANDER-TAIWANESE MIX AS BEFORE (2 OUT OF 10).
FOUR ARE FORMER IV GRANTEES AND SIX WERE EDUCATED IN
THE U.S. NEW TAIWAN GOVERNOR (ALSO FORMER IV) AND NEW
TAIPEI MAYOR BOTH TAIWANESE.

-- PRESS STILL COMMENTING ON CONSEQUENCE BRZEZINSKI
PEKING VISIT. EDITORIALS LONG ON SPECULATION ABOUT
STATUS OF NORMALIZATION, PARTICULARLY POSSIBLE MILITARY
COOPERATION BETWEEN U.S. AND PRC, ALLEGED VANCE-
BRZEZINSKI FEUD, AND USUAL WIDE PLAY OF AMERICAN
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CONSERVATIVES' SUPPORT FOR SECURITY OF TAIWAN.
CRANSTON REPORT RECEIVED COVERAGE IN ALL PAPERS,
HOWEVER ONE EDITORIALIZED THAT REPORT NOT REPRESENTATIVE.
IN GENERAL, REPORTING STRAIGHTFORWARD WIRE
SERVICE OR WASHINGTON-BASED REHASH. ATTENTION TO
AMERICAN COLUMNISTS' CONJECTURE ABOUT SIGNIFICANCE OF
TRIP SEEMS TO INDICATE COGNIZANCE THAT DESPITE LACK OF

SPECIFICS, NORMALIZATION OBVIOUSLY ON TRACK. HENCE ANALYSIS NOW CONCENTRATING ON "JUSTIFICATION" OF NORMALIZATION, PARTICULARLY ANTI-SOVIET ANGLE. ALTHOUGH NO ONE DENIES RUSSIAN THREAT, EDITORIALS WARN AGAINST RELYING ON PRC TO COUNTER THREAT. NATO SUMMIT ALSO GETTING ATTENTION (WITH ACCOMPANYING EDITORIAL COMMENT ABOUT COMPLACENCY OF EUROPE). WHILE CHINESE LANGUAGE EDITORIALS CONTINUE TO DISCUSS BROAD IMPLICATIONS OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY, THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE CHINA NEWS (20,000) DAILY CLICKS OFF DIRE CONSEQUENCES OF NORMALIZATION FOR TAIWAN, ACCUSES U.S. OF "PERFIDY" AND "DOUBLE-CROSS."

-- FRONT PAGE REPRINT OF PRESIDENT'S READER'S DIGEST INTERVIEW AND ACCOLADES FOR THE NEW CABINET DOMINATED LOCAL NEWS. RECENTLY ELECTED EX-KMT MAGISTRATE OF TAOYUAN IN UNITED DAILY NEWS (LIEN HO PAO; 600,000) ARTICLE CLAIMED OVERWHELMING POPULAR SUPPORT IN TAIWAN FOR SAN DIEGO NEWSLETTER, "TAIWAN, MY CHINA" IS TESTIMONY TO "CONCRETE AWAKENING" OF PEOPLE'S DEDICATION HERE TO SAVE NATION. HE TOOK OCCASION TO CRITICIZE THOSE WHO MIGHT BE PLANNING TO ABANDON SHIP, FINANCIALLY OR OTHERWISE.

-- FORMER STUDENT REVIEW EMPLOYEE (AMERICAN) SUGGESTED IN ENGLISH-LANGUAGE ECONOMIC NEWS THAT USICA SELL SOON-TO-BE CLOSED TAICHUNG AND TAINAN LIBRARIES TO GROG FOR USE AS CULTURAL CENTERS, THEREBY SAVING ICA COST OF SHIPPING LIBRARIES BACK TO U.S.

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-- UPI ITEM IN CHINA POST (ENGLISH-LANGUAGE; 20,000) REPORTS NEW HAMPSHIRE GOVERNOR MELDRIM THOMSON'S CONSERVATIVE CAUCUS WILL AWARD A MONTH-LONG TAIWAN TRIP FOR FOUR BEST NH HIGH SCHOOL ESSAYS ON "WHY AMERICAN SHOULD NOT NORMALIZE RELATIONS."

2. PROGRAM ACTIVITIES:

-- POST CONCLUDED "AMERICAN NOBEL PRIZE WINNERS IN LITERATURE" SERIES WITH CHINESE LECTURE ON SAUL BELLOW BY PROFESSOR WANG WEN-HSING ON MAY 26. WANG, A SHORT STORY WRITER AND PROFESSOR OF LITERATURE AT NATIONAL TAIWAN UNIVERSITY, ANALYZED SAUL BELLOW'S REPRESENTATIVE NOVELS IN CONTEXT OF AMERICAN SOCIETY. WHOLE SERIES, WHICH STARTED IN DECEMBER 1976, WAS COMPOSED OF SEVEN LECTURES AND THREE PANEL DISCUSSIONS COVERING SEVEN NOBEL PRIZE-WINNING AMERICAN WRITERS: SINCLAIR LEWIS, EUGENE O'NEILL, PEARL BUCK, WILLIAM FAULKNER, ERNEST HEMINGWAY, JOHN STEINBECK AND SAUL BELLOW. MOST OF THESE PROGRAMS WERE ILLUSTRATED WITH FILM ORSLIDE SHOWINGS. OVER 1,200 ATTENDED THESE PROGRAMS INCLUDING DOZEN PROFESSORS OF LITERATURE FROM LOCAL UNIVERSITIES. SEVERAL PROGRAMS WERE PRAISED AS USEFUL SUPPLEMENTS TO CLASS TEACHINGS.

PART OF THIS SERIES WAS REPEATED IN BRANCH POSTS. POST
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